

CONFESSIONS OF A POETRY READER

Ed Neumann Vows Never To Read Another Poem; But He's Only Kidding!

By Edwin Neuman
Date: Friday, March 13, 1942.
Place: Hotel Roosevelt, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
Time: 8:15 p. m.

The four Mrs. I'm sitting in a large room with people all about me. The other poetry readers are scattered all about the room. Some are sitting near the back. Most of them are in the front of the room, however. They probably reason as I do that a straight line is the closest distance between two points and the two points are the chair in which you are sitting and the spot on the door from which you read your poem.

Someone drops a pencil and the noise it makes resembles the roar of a cannon when you are reciting in the silence. One would think a man was about to be hanged in this room. I start to hold my breath. I hold it for two or three moments and finally let it escape in a gasp and rush that sounds like a steam whistle. Instantly I start to wonder if anyone heard the noise. I slowly turn around. Two pairs of eyes are fixed upon me. Some have cold eyes, some warm, some jolly some sad, some hard. I duck my head, slide down in my chair and wonder how long this is possible to please all those pairs of eyes with only one poem.

It's Time To Begin.
It's almost time to start. I suddenly feel that I would give anything to be millions of miles away. Any place would be better than this room. The chairman rises slowly, walks to the front of the room and tells us in a clear, low, pleasant voice that the time has come to begin the most looked-for-of-the-evening of the day. Back in my mind I can feel that centuries ago, I had looked forward to this poetry reading also, but I am positive that after this ordeal is over, I shall not read another poem for the next two or three centuries. Our Midwestern Chairman talking in her low, non-ruffled, non-nervous, non-hesitant voice. Oh! If I could only get up and be able to give my introduction as freely and as fluently as she does.

She finishes her speech, the

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Put Out Freshman Issue of Trumpet



These five Wartburg freshmen were in charge of the annual "Freshman Issue" of the Trumpet, Wartburg college student newspaper, printed Saturday, March 14.

Left to right they are Ruth Miller, Hazen,

N. D., business manager, Bill Hughes, Strawberry Point, sports editor, Charles Hart, Chicago, feature editor, Phyllis Heun, Waverly, associate editor, and George Reinko, Chicago, editors-in-chief.

I-A
time keeper arranges his cards, the eight scattered judges sound like a thunderstorm as they tremble their scoring sheets, put on their glasses, open their pockets and settle themselves to a long winter night of poetry reading.

The first boy walks up to the front, gives his introduction, opens his book and reads. And so the second and third and all the rest. We hear from Sandburg, Lindsay, Benet, Millay.

Poetry Reading Is Fun.
Suddenly it is my turn. Pictures begin to whirl in front of my mind. I see Prof. Tornquist saying, "Go slow. Speak distinctly. Bring out the contrasts. Don't shout. Go slow. Talk to each one. Speak distinctly. Go slow."

They suddenly melt away. I stand and hoping my knees and legs won't crack and disturb the silence, I start to speak. My vocal organs work (at great consolation)!

Half the battle is over. Suddenly I forget about the people, the circumstances, the play, the time. I start to read my poem. Prof. is again before me saying "Slow down plenty of time." I read on, the people look interested. Maybe they like it. I see Hugh Johnson, a negro friend of mine. He looks interested too. I say a few words to him. I see Prof. Hart, Dr. back. He looks scared. The time keeper holds up the poem-minute-40. I finish reading. I see and feel all of these things. Suddenly I recall

All Over But Shouting.
My poem is over. I have slowly walked back to my chair and sat down. I suddenly realize how Washington felt after the Revolution—third, the strength sapped out, and glad that the ordeal is completed. Three seconds after I finish reading, I see and feel all of these things. Suddenly I recall

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phrases that someone has just read. It's by Sandburg, "proud to be alive." It's more than pride; it's pure joy. To be able to listen to the last reader with no worries or tormenting thoughts to crash through my mind and disturb my pleasure!

Now it is all over. The poetry reading contest is finished; all over except for the announcements of the decisions on the morning. I know it will be several, more centuries until tomorrow, but I have finished my poem. I am happy—and yet, I'm a little bit sad. Happy and sad. It's funny. And I don't know why.

Among the outstanding productions by the Wartburg Players, directed by Prof. Tornquist, is "The Crown of Thorns," presented twice during the current Lenten season. The final Wartburg Players' production for the season will be "The Conqueror," to be presented on the evening of High School Senior Day, April 22.

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GEMIXTE PICKLES

Editor,

Tu les ject sehr sehr, aber ich muss mir twice schreiben und die noch schreiben. Weil kein philosophischer dissertation im offing und muss ich ein little bit explorieren für ein subject von a letter an dir.

So, will ich dissertation an der subject von spring, und, von den gemischten, will ich a few observations auch machen, die aber vielleicht dissertation im next poem, aber das müssen wir auch explorieren weiter so rein aus. Es wird aus das spring ein season von hauskeeping ist, die profs haben das auch seriously genommen und jet haben wir ein rigorous mental hauskeeping, come niedersinken. Der campus ist aber life auf picken, der grass is green, die freshmen nicht so much, die sophomores tun in der 30's nach, die juniors tun already sophistication practices, und seniors die nehmen family class seriously.

Aber, in so ein season muss man die prosaic things von life forgetten und ra stuff wie poetry turnen und jetzt, as a warning ich dir dieses little poem.

"Kommt rüber, dich dein rüber an.
Der grund is voll mit mud,
Und wenn du nicht sehr careful bist
Wirst du a dreig dick mud."

Dein,
Hermann Bierwagen.

Fifty-seven per cent of Dartmouth's living, know-nothing students contributed answers averaging \$16.75 to the Alumni council's record fund of \$195,000.

Let's make Our Campus Look Like Spring and S. O. S. ! ! !

Bowling Green State University has become the first American college to offer a scholarship for horseshoe riding.

Women are more talkative than men and argue more, according to a survey by eastern New Mexico college students.

Students: Stay on Sidewalk!!

Ruth Mardorf sang "The House That Jack Built" by Sidney Homer for convocation Friday, March 24. She was accompanied by Helen Thompson.

For convocation Friday, March 27, Paul Keller sang "The Ninety and Nine." George Helmkamp accompanied him.

University of Pennsylvania coeds have formed sewing and cutting squads to make blackout curtains for the men's dormitories.

A new course in democratic objectives recently was introduced at Iowa State college.

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CAPT. LANDWEHR LEADS BASEBALL SQUAD FOR 1942

Wartburg's representative in Iowa conference baseball competition has gradually begun to take shape with a few indoor and outdoor workouts the past weeks.

Heading the squad is Captain Dick Landwehr, senior from Ashton, Iowa, and a letterwinner in the first base position. There is a slight possibility, however, that Dick may be shifted to another position, perhaps short.

The pitching staff is headed by Don Herron, sophomore letterman from Maquette, Ia. Two freshmen, left-handers, Arnold Lebow and Gene Nielsen, from Poppley and Thornton, Ia., respectively, are in underdog roles.

Armin Leschenko, senior from Redwood, Wis., and Ray Schaefer, junior from Greene, Ia., are the only lettermen in the outfield. Orville Kalkreuth, freshman, Ill., and a junior in college, won a letter at third but will probably take the catching assignment.

Depending upon the appearance of Rudy Langford, senior from Lakota, Ia., on the practice field.

Members on the Wartburg diamond include Jim and Bill Hughes, Strawberry Point, Ia.; Mike Hamann, Camptown, Ia.; Lawrence Sailer, Hazen, N. D.; Ed Gable, Chicago, Ill.; Arvid Schwan, Hampton, Ia.; Burton Schwartz, Sumner, Ia.; and Raymond Southard, Albia, Ia.

At the present time the baseball schedule is very incomplete. Penn will probably be Wartburg's opponent on Senior Day, April 29. Buena Vista, Lattin, S. T. C. and Upper Iowa might be included on the Wartburg schedule.

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INTERCLASS TOURNAMENT

To fill the gap in sports activities on the campus, the athletic department recently sponsored an interclass basketball tournament. If do-or-die competition and general student interest may be used as criteria, the tournament certainly may be judged a success. The Sophomore class put the smoothest team on the floor, beating the newcomers on the campus 29-16 in the opening round and taming the Seniors 24-22 for the championship. Battling for consolation honors the Freshmen set back the Juniors 24-19. To H. Becker, senior who scored 23 points in the two games, went tournament runner-up position. Don Herron, sophomore flash, was in the scoring-horizon position with 20 counters.

ALL-CONFERENCE BASKETBALL

The all-conference basketball team as printed by the Des Moines Register has the following membership.

FIRST CHOICE	POSITION	SECOND CHOICE
G. Warner, Parsons	Scoring forward	D. Alderson, Op. Ia.
E. Emsw, Dubuque	Defensive forward	E. Press, Simpson
G. Wagner, Parsons	Drilling forward	D. Lasher, Bn. V.
R. Beckman, Ia. V.	Ball-handling forward	E. Fossow, Dubuque
J. Beckman, Bu. V.	Center	D. Conway, St. Amb.
B. Harris, Simpson	Defensive center	F. Bahning, Iowa
J. Beckman, Ia. V.	Drilling center	J. Beckman, Bn. V.
Bill Riedel, Dubuque	Ball-handling center	W. Harris, Simpson
Dave Press, Lattin	Scoring guard	R. Beck, Simpson
Ed Farrell, Iowa	Drilling guard	C. McDonald, Luther
M. Reed, Simpson	Ball-handling guard	C. McDonald, Luther

Sophomores Take Class Basketball Tournament

Nose Out Seniors in Final Game;

Frosh Whip Juniors

Bitterly-fought basketball and screaming enthusiasm on the part of the spectators marked the interclass tournament championship game as the Sophomores outlasted the Seniors 24-22.

Defeat was the paramount concern of the two teams, and the score was tied at nine points each at the half. Fouling proved to be the real downfall of the Seniors, who lost to the Sophomores on penalties and played part of the game with only five men. The Sophomores lost Obenauer and Sandrock but had capable reserve players.

Herron with 10 points was the center of the champions' attack while H. Becker led the runner-up squad with an equal number of counters.

In the opening round the sophomores beat the freshmen by a score of 29 to 16. The sophomores took an early command of the game and led 15 to 9 at the half. Herron and Sandrock scored 10 and 9 points respectively led the sophomore attack while Emmet led the freshmen with 7.

In the second game of the first round the seniors won 38 to 35 over the juniors in a hotly-contested game. H. Becker with 13 points and Landwehr with 11 were the spearheads of the senior attack. Jim Hughes counted 12 to lead the juniors.

In the battle for third place the freshmen played a smooth brand of basketball to overcome the huddles juniors, 24 to 19. Emmet again, with 8 points, proved to be the high scorer for the freshmen.

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while Schaefer and Fritz counted six each for the juniors.

This tournament, an annual affair on the Wartburg campus, was sponsored by the athletic department and was under the general supervision of Hank Kalkreuth, assistant coach.

Box Score Championship game	Sophomores (24)	FG	FT	PF
Sandrock, f	1	0	4	0
Buller, c	2	0	0	0
Harris, g	0	1	0	0
Becker, c	2	0	0	0
Langford, g	1	0	0	0
LaBata, g	1	1	1	1
McCauley, g	0	0	0	0
Stubsweil, g	0	0	0	0

Totals

Seniors (22)	FG	FT	PF
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Landwehr, f

H. Becker, f

Schick, f

Langford, g

A. Becker, g

Miersner, g

Schaefer, g

Totals

8	8	15
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COLLEGE CHOR IN HOME CONCERT

Group Presents Numbers

in St. Paul's Church

to Large Audience.

The Wartburg college choir presented its home concert, a day evening in St. Paul's church before a large audience.

As a "pre" concert Miss Page C. Schimmer, Waverly high school vocal music instructor, has written this commentary on the choir's work.

"Sunday evening afforded the people of Waverly the opportunity of hearing one of the finest choral concerts which can be heard in this section of the country. For their home and a quarter of the audience was impressed and inspired by the music provided by the tireless effort of the director, Mr. E. Liemann, and his choir of college students.

"The entire program was an interesting and delightful one. The expert skill of the choir was displayed in the double choir numbers 'The Spirit Alone' and 'Heigh Ho and Nodded' and 'Why Rags Firefly the Heavens'. Yet at no time did one lose the spirit in which both composers meant the composition. To exemplify, 'Holy Radiant Light' by Gretchenhoff-Cain was the essence of true worshipful singing.

Along with the compositions of the greatest composers of choral writing we were greatly moved by the composition of Dr. G. J. Neumann's beautiful poem set to music and arranged by Mr. Liemann, and last but certainly not least, Mr. Liemann's own stirring composition 'Wake, Awake, For Night is Flying'. This gave to the concert an ending which left the audience replete with admiration as well as inspiration.

"Waverly, as well as Wartburg College, should be extremely proud of its capella choir under the competent direction of Dr. E. Liemann. They have given to us more than merely a vocal music in their concert of worship. I am sure I am not alone in my sincere hope that Waverly may have the opportunity to hear this truly inspirational choir very soon again."

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Richard Landwehr, Ashton, Iowa, will lead the Knights in basketball battles this spring.

It's Spring!!

When Old Sol finally poked his face over the edge of Be Tropic of Cancer, way men in all countries stroked their long beards and solemnly announced to the war-torn world that even military priorities could not prevent the spring equinox from making its appearance on schedule!

On that notable morning, Mr. and Mrs. America momentarily lose themselves away from mundane affairs and looked out their kitchen windows there they saw fat robins pecking away juicy worms. Mr. America laid aside his morning paper and thought, "Hm, I'd better check over my fishing jacks." Mrs. America thought, "Oh dear, it's about time to get my petunias in the ground."

Junior America didn't stop to think, he just shouted, "Mamma, buy me a kite!"

Mr. and Mrs. Adolescent America began to wander around with a new light in their eyes and a new song in their hearts.

Brother Groundhog stuck his nose out into the world again and twitched his nostrils a half dozen times, then confidently stepped out into the sunlight and exclaimed cheerfully, "It's all right to come out now!"

The grass and buds and the leaves and the flowers heard the joyful news and eagerly emerged from their winter's retreat in the bosom of Mother Nature.

Everywhere was heard the glad chorus, "It's spring!"

Blind Violinist

Praises Choir

The following article written by a blind violinist, one of whose pupils was a national champion recently, appeared in a Napoleon, Ohio, paper after the Wartburg choir concert there.

"Despite the inclement weather of last Sunday evening, a large number of attentive auditors assembled in the High School Auditorium to listen to a program of sacred music presented by the do-

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EVENING

Dramatics Production by the Wartburg Players

Goldsmith's 'She Stoops To Conquer'

voice choir of Wartburg College, Waverly, Iowa, and directed by E. Liemann.

"From beginning to end each number was presented in such an artistic manner that it would indeed be difficult to select any one composition as being particularly outstanding. However, this listener derived much enjoyment from Becker's 'The Spirit Alone Heigh Ho, a Motet for Double Choir.'"

In the Swedish Folk song, 'His Strength Is in the Hills' arranged by the director, the humming accompaniment was especially effective as a background for the solo voices. In fact, at times it was not unlike the tones of a beautiful organ.

Junior America consisted of numbers by Tschukowsky, Brahms, Schum, Mendelssohn, Swedish Folk Tune arranged by Liemann, Gretchenhoff-Cain, Schavlovsky, Christiansen and Liemann. All frequently the classics are presented in a dry, traditional manner but not so with this group.

The young director interpreted each composition with a freshness and vitality which at no time detracted from the nobility and sacredness of the music. The joy of singing was truly a joy to hear.

"It is fervently hoped that the Wartburg choir will come to us again with another fine program. We are deeply indebted to the manual Lutheran Church for bringing these young people to our community."

C. HAGANS.

Mount Holyoke's recent Junior show spent three hours trying to prove that a tax on college girls' brains would net the government no revenue.



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